

REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested. The following amendment has been made in view of the Interview with Examiner Philip Tucker.

The pending claims in the present application are claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-17, 19-27 and 29-39. Claims 4, 14, 18, 28 and 40 have been canceled without prejudice. Independent claims 1, 15 and 29 have been amended in view the amendments made in the parent and related applications, which have now issued as patents. There is support in the specification for the amendments, including the incorporation of copolymer beads and the list of carriers into the independent claims. Previously canceled claims 2, 17 and 30 are being re-presented. The claims will be allowable since they add graphite to the subject matter of claim 36 of U.S. Patent No. 6,734,145 and claim 47 of U.S. Patent No. 6,737,384.

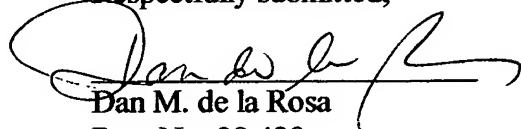
The Applicant is also submitting a terminal disclaimer to overcome any provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

In view of the actions taken and arguments presented, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is now in condition for allowance.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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